

Panel III: Hon. Rudolph Giuliani; Carmen Catizone, M.S., RPh, DPh, Executive Director/Secretary, National Association of Boards of Pharmacy Boards; Kathleen Jaeger, President and CEO, GPhA; Ms. Joanna Disch, Board Member, AARP; and Ms. Elizabeth A. Wennar, M.P.H., D.H.A., President and CEO, United Health Alliance of Bennington, VT and Principle, HealthInova of Manchester, VT, United Health Alliance, Health Care Economist.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON RULES AND ADMINISTRATION

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Rules and Administration be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, July 14, 2004, at 9:30 a.m., to conduct an oversight hearing on the Federal Election Commission.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON PUBLIC LANDS AND FORESTS

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the subcommittee on Public Lands and Forests of the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, July 14, at 2:30 p.m.

The purpose of the hearing is to receive testimony on S. 2317, to limit the royalty on soda ash; S. 2353, to reauthorize and amend the National Geologic Mapping Act of 1992; H.R. 1189, to increase the waiver requirement for certain local matching requirements for grants provided to American Samoa, Guam, the Virgin Islands, or the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and for other purposes; and H.R. 2010, to protect the voting rights of members of the armed services in elections for the delegate representing American Samoa in the United States House of Representatives, and for other purposes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

HONORING FORMER PRESIDENT GERALD FORD ON HIS 91ST BIRTHDAY

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Res. 405, which was submitted earlier today by Senators STABENOW and LEVIN.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will state the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 405) honoring former President Gerald R. Ford on the occasion of his 91st birthday, and sending the best wishes of the Senate to former President Ford and his family.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, today I join my colleague from Michigan in supporting resolution honoring Gerald

R. Ford, the 38th President of the United States on the occasion of his 91st birthday.

President Ford, the favorite son of the city of Grand Rapids, and the only President from Michigan, played a memorable role in our Nation's history in one of its darkest hours. The first Vice-President appointed under the 25th amendment to the Constitution, he became president when Richard Nixon resigned in the wake of the Watergate scandal. It was Gerald Ford's calm and steady leadership that began the process of healing our Nation's wounds after one of the most serious domestic crises in our history. President Clinton awarded him the Medal of Freedom, in 1999, in recognition of that leadership.

Gerald Ford served thirteen terms in the House of Representatives. From 1965 through 1973, he was the minority leader in that body. It is particularly instructive in this time of partisan division in the Congress to reflect on his example as one who fought many battles on behalf of his party, and his constituency, but who did so without acrimony or ill-will. He built life-long relationships and friendships across the party aisle—even with his opposite numbers in the House Democratic leadership. We would be well served at this time in this body to remember his example.

I extend my congratulations and best wishes to Gerry Ford, his wonderful wife, Betty, and his family. I am certain that the people of Michigan, and our colleagues in the Senate join Senator STABENOW and me in paying tribute to President Ford on his 91st birthday.

Ms. STABENOW. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to the only person from the State of Michigan to have served as President of the United States. On behalf of the people of the State of Michigan, I want to extend my best wishes to President Gerald R. Ford and his family on the occasion of his 91st birthday.

President Ford took office during an extraordinarily trying time for America. He was the first Vice President chosen under the terms of the Twenty-Fifth Amendment and, in the aftermath of Watergate, succeeded the first American President ever to resign. In his inaugural address on August 9, 1974, President Ford noted, "This is an hour of history that troubles our minds and hurts our hearts." Gerald Ford took on the challenge of healing our national faith in the presidency with courage, wisdom and integrity.

Indeed, it was President Ford's reputation for openness and integrity that propelled him into the White House. He was appointed Vice President after serving twelve terms in the U.S. House of Representatives, having secured each term with more than 60 percent of the vote. The confidence of his colleagues fueled his ascent to Ranking Member on the Defense Appropriations Subcommittee and, eventually, to Mi-

nority Leader. It also won him an appointment to the Warren Commission investigating the assassination of President John F. Kennedy.

As President, Gerald Ford led our Nation on the path toward healing a wounded faith in that office. He also labored to improve relationships among nations. In his own words "a dyed-in-the-wool internationalist," President Ford presided over the signing of the Helsinki Agreement, which ratified post-World War II European borders and codified international human rights standards. He also worked for improved relations among the nations of the Middle East and, together with Soviet leader Leonid Brezhnev, set new limitations on nuclear proliferation.

Since leaving the White House in 1977, President Ford has remained actively engaged in the political process and has continued to speak out on important issues. He has lectured at hundreds of colleges and universities, hosted numerous forums on public affairs, and served as an adjunct professor of Government at the University of Michigan. In 1999, President Bill Clinton awarded Ford the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the Nation's highest civilian honor.

Gerald Ford has also made an important mark in his home State of Michigan. In 1977, he announced the establishment of the Gerald R. Ford Institute for Public Policy and Service at Albion College, which administers an interdisciplinary program for undergraduate students preparing for careers in public service. In 1981, the Gerald R. Ford Library in Ann Arbor and the Gerald R. Ford Museum in Grand Rapids were dedicated. Through these institutions, the people of Michigan and many visitors from around the country and the world continue to benefit from President Ford's legacy of internationalism, scholarship and humor.

President Ford, on the occasion of your 91st birthday, the American people salute you, and express our profound gratitude for your leadership and service.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution and preamble be agreed to en bloc, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements relating thereto be printed in the RECORD, without intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 405) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 405

Whereas Gerald Rudolph Ford was born on July 14, 1913;

Whereas Gerald R. Ford is the only person from the State of Michigan to have served as President of the United States;

Whereas Gerald R. Ford graduated from the University of Michigan where he was a star center on the football team and later turned down offers to play in the National Football League;

Whereas Gerald R. Ford attended Yale University Law School and graduated in the top 25 percent of his class while also working as a football coach;

Whereas in 1942, Gerald R. Ford joined the United States Navy Reserves and served valiantly on the U.S.S. Monterey in the Philippines during World War II, surviving a heavy storm during which he came within inches of being swept overboard;

Whereas the U.S.S. Monterey earned 10 battle stars, awarded for participation in battle, while Gerald R. Ford served on the ship;

Whereas Gerald R. Ford was released to inactive duty in 1946 with the rank of Lieutenant Commander;

Whereas in 1948, Gerald R. Ford was elected to the House of Representatives where he served with integrity for 25 years;

Whereas in 1963, President Lyndon Johnson appointed Gerald R. Ford to the Warren Commission investigating the assassination of President John F. Kennedy;

Whereas from 1965 to 1973, Gerald R. Ford served as minority leader of the House of Representatives;

Whereas from 1974 to 1976, Gerald R. Ford served as the 38th President of the United States, taking office at a dark hour in the history of the United States and restoring the faith of the people of the United States in the Presidency through his wisdom, courage, and integrity;

Whereas in 1975, the United States signed the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe, commonly known as the "Helsinki Agreement", which ratified post-World War II European borders and supported human rights;

Whereas since leaving the Presidency, Gerald R. Ford has been an international ambassador of American goodwill, a noted scholar and lecturer, and a strong supporter of the Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy at the University of Michigan, which was named for the former President in 1999;

Whereas Gerald R. Ford was awarded the Congressional Gold Medal in 1999; and

Whereas on July 14, 2004, Gerald R. Ford will celebrate his 91st birthday: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate honors former President Gerald R. Ford on the occasion of his 91st birthday and extends its congratulations and best wishes to former President Ford and his family.

CLARIFYING CERTAIN RETIREMENT PLANS

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Finance Committee be discharged from further consideration of S. 2589 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered. The clerk will state the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 2589) to clarify the status of certain retirement plans and the organizations which maintain the plans.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read the third time and passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements relating to the bill be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (S. 2589) was read the third time and passed.

(The bill will be printed in a future edition of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.)

HELPING HANDS FOR HOMEOWNERSHIP ACT OF 2004

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Banking Committee be discharged from further consideration of H. R. 4363 and that the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 4363) to facilitate self-help housing homeownership opportunities.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read a third time and passed, and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (H.R. 4363) was read the third time and passed.

APPOINTMENT

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair, on behalf of the President pro tempore, pursuant to Public Law 99-498, appoints the following individual as a member of the Advisory Committee on Student Financial Assistance: Clare M. Cotton of Massachusetts.

ORDERS FOR THURSDAY, JULY 15, 2004

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, July 15. I further ask that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and the Senate

then begin a period for the transaction of morning business for up to 60 minutes, with the first 30 minutes under the control of the Democratic leader or his designee, and the final 30 minutes under the control of the majority leader or his designee; provided, that following morning business, the Senate begin consideration of Calendar No. 591, H.R. 4520, the FSC/ETI JOBS bill, as provided under the previous order.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

PROGRAM

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, following morning business, the Senate will begin debate on the FSC/ETI JOBS bill. Under the previous agreement, there will be up to 3 hours of debate on the DeWine-Kennedy FDA and tobacco amendment. We will vote on that amendment later tomorrow afternoon.

We will also take up H.R. 4759, the Australian free trade bill tomorrow and complete that measure as well. Therefore, Senators can expect a couple of votes later in the day on Thursday.

MEASURE READ THE FIRST TIME—S. 2652

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I understand that S. 2652 is at the desk, and I ask for its first reading.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will read the bill for the first time.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 2652) to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to deliver a meaningful benefit and lower prescription drug prices under the medicare program.

Mr. FRIST. I now ask for its second reading, and in order to place the bill on the Calendar under the provisions of rule XIV, I object to my own request.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The bill will be read the second time on the next legislative day.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 9:30 A.M. TOMORROW

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate stand in adjournment under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 9:18 p.m., adjourned until Thursday, July 15, 2004, at 9:30 a.m.